

The Daily Courant.

Wednesday, February 15. 1716.

A further Continuation of the Barrier Treaty.

VII. **A**s it appears by the Experience of the late War, that for putting the Frontiers of the States-General into Security, it was necessary to leave many considerable Bodies of Troops there, that the Army was thereby much weakened: To prevent this Inconvenience, and the better to secure the said Frontiers for the future, his Imperial and Catholick Majesty has given up to the States-General such Forts and Territory of the Austrian Flanders bordering upon their said Frontiers from the Schelde to the Sea, for the better covering those Parts where they cannot make Inundations upon the Lands already belonging to the States-General. For this purpose his Imperial and Catholick Majesty agrees to, and approves of, that the Limits of the States-General in Flanders shall hereafter begin at the Sea, between Blankenberg and Heyft, at the Place where there is no Downes: Provided they do not build, or permit to be built, any Villages or Houses near the said Post, nor suffer Fishermen to settle there, nor make any Sluices to the Sea there. And their High Mightinesses promise, that if they find it necessary to build any Fortifications at the Head of their new Limits, they will take Care not to diminish the Strength of the Dyke; and not only charge themselves with the Expence of the said Fortifications, but also to indemnify the Inhabitants of the Austrian Flanders from all Losses they may sustain, in case the Sea comes to make Inundations through the said Fortifications. There shall be drawn from the Post above-said a direct Line to Gortwege, from whence it shall be continued towards the Heyft, from Heyft it shall go to the Dyerhoeck and Swartsluys, from thence to Fort St. Donat, which his Imperial and Catholick Majesty gives up in full Propriety and Sovereignty to their High Mightinesses (provided always that the Gates of the Sluyces of the said Fort shall be left open in time of Peace) and gives up in like Manner the Land situate on the North of the Line above-mentioned. From Fort St. Donat the new Limits of the States-General shall extend to Fort St. Job, from whence they fall in with the old one near Middleburg, which Line shall follow along the Zyding-Dyke as far as the Place where the Eckelose Water-Courie and the Water-loop meet at a Sluice. After which it shall follow the Graf-Jans-Dyke to the Village of Bouchante, (the Proprietors of the Sluyces being permitted to place them where they were before) and from Bouchante the Line shall be continued straight forward to the ancient Limits of the States-General. His Imperial and Catholick Majesty gives up also in full and entire Sovereignty to the States-General, the Territory situate on the North of the said Line. And in regard that for their better Security it is necessary that the Inundation be continued from Bouchante to the Canal of the Sas of Gaunt along the Graf-Jans-Dyke, it shall be permitted to their High Mightinesses in time of War to take Possession of and fortify all the Sluices that are found along the Graf-Jans-Dyke and the Zydingdyke. With respect to the Town of the Sas van Gaunt, the Limits shall be extended to the Distance of 2000 Geometrical Paces, provided there be no Village included in that Space. And for the preservation of the Lower Schelde, and the Communication between the Dutch Brabant and Flanders, his Imperial and Catholick Majesty gives up to the States-General the full Propriety and Sovereignty of the Villages of Polder of Doel, as also the Polder of St. Anne and M. Cistrie. And whereas in time of War there will be need, for the better Security, to make Inundations through the Sluices between the Forts of the Mere and the Pearl, his Imperial and Catholick Majesty shall permit, as soon as the Barrier shall be attacked or a Warning given, the Guard of the Pearl Fort and the Sluice of their High Mightinesses: Provided always that as soon as the War is over they shall restore the said Fort and Sluices to his Imperial and Catholick Majesty, as likewise those they shall have in that time taken possession of on the Graf-Jans-Dyke and Zydingdyke. The States-General shall not make any Inundation in Times of Peace, and when in Time of War they believe themselves obliged to make them, they shall give Notice beforehand to the Governor-General of the Netherlands. Promising moreover, that if upon Occasion of the giving up to them some Sluices, whereof the Inhabitants of the Austrian Flanders shall still retain the free Use in Time of Peace, any Damage or Prejudice is done, the States-General shall not only immediately remedy it, but shall also give Satisfaction to

those concerned. And seeing that by this new Creation of the Limits it will be necessary to alter the Toll-Houses to prevent Frauds, wherein his Imperial and Catholick Majesty and their High Mightinesses are equally interested, the Places for establishing the said Toll-Houses shall be agreed upon, as likewise the further Precautions that shall be thought fit to take. It is further Stipulated by this Article, that a just Valuation shall be made before the Ratification of this Treaty, of the Revenues that have arisen to the Sovereign by the renewed Grants, upon the Foot they have been agreed to for 30 Years last past, to be deducted from the Annual Subsidy of 500000 Crowns. The Roman Catholick Religion shall be preserved and maintained in the same manner it is now established in the Places hereby given up to the States. And in like manner all the Privileges of the Inhabitants shall be preserved and maintained. The Fort of Rodenhuyfen shall be razed, and the Differences concerning the Canal of Bruges shall be referred to neutral Arbitrators chosen by both Parties; provided always that by the giving up of Fort St. Donat, those of the Town of Sluys shall not have more Right upon that Canal than they had before this Cession.

XVIII. His Imperial and Catholick Majesty surrenders to their High Mightinesses for ever in full Sovereignty and Propriety in the Upper Quarter of Guelderland, the Town of Venlo, with its Precinct and Jurisdiction, and the Fort of St. Michael; and more, the Fort of Stevenswaert with its Territory or Jurisdiction, as also as much Land as will be wanting to augment the Fortifications on this side the Maes: And his Majesty promises that he will never build or permit to be built any Fortification of what Name soever within the Distance of half a League from the old Forts. Moreover his Imperial and Catholick Majesty gives up to the States-General the Ammanie of Montfort, consisting (with exception to the Villages of Swamit and Elmt which are reserved) of the little Towns of Nieuwstadt and Echt, with the Villages following, namely, Oke and Lack, Roostern, Bracht, Belseln, Vlodoep, Postert, Berg, Lin and Montfort, to be possessed by the said States-General, in the Manner as they were enjoyed by King Charles II. of Glorious Memory, with the Prebendes, Burgs, Fiefs, Lands, Fines, Quit-Rents, Revenues, Tolls, of what Nature soever, Subsidies, Contributions and Collocations, Rights, Fealties, Demesne and others whatsoever belonging to the said Places given up as above-said: The whole, however without Prejudice, and saving all the Rights which may belong to the King of Prussia, &c. Always provided, that this Surrender is made with this express Clause, That the Statutes, ancient Customs, and generally all the Privileges Civil and Ecclesiastical, as well with respect to the Magistrates as private Persons; that the Churches, Convents, Monastery, Seminaries, Hospitals, and other publick Places, with all their Appurtenances and Dependencies; as also the Diocesan Rights of the Bishop of Ruremonde, and generally all that concerns the Rights, Liberties, Immunities, Fondions, Offices, Ceremonies, and the Exercise of Religion, shall be preserv'd and subsist without any Change or Innovation, directly or indirectly, in all the Places given up as above-said, in the same Manner as in the Time of King Charles the II. of glorious Memory, and as it shall be explain'd on both Sides more amply in Case any Dispute arises upon this Subject; and the Offices of Magistracy or Policy shall be given to none but such as are of the Roman Catholick Religion. The Right of Collation to Benefices, which has been hitherto in the Sovereign, shall hereafter belong to the Bishop of Ruremonde; upon Condition that the said Benefices shall not be given to Persons disagreeable to the States-General, for Reasons that may be alleged. It is also stipulated, that the States-General shall not pretend to have acquir'd by the Cession of the Town of Echt, any Right of Judicature or of Appeal, with respect to the Chapter of Thron, or other Lands of the Empire; and his said Imperial and Catholick Majesty shall be free to name such Places as he shall think fit for the said Judicature or Appeal. And seeing the Inhabitants of the Part of the Upper Quarter which is hereby surrender'd, can no longer carry their Process in Case of Appeal to the Court of Ruremonde, it shall be free for the States-General to establish a Court of Appeal for their Subjects in what Part of the Province they think fit. It is moreover agreed, That all the Duties on Import or Export which are levied along the Maes, shall not be increased or altered.

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